

Message Text

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ACTION SIL-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 /046 W
-----013929 081419Z /47 41

R 080813Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2603
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, RP
SUBJECT: WFTU RECRUITING DELEGATES FOR PRAGUE CONVENTION

1. JOHNNY TAN, PRESIDENT OF THE BROTHERHOOD OF ASIAN TRADE UNIONISTS (BATU) AND THE FEDERATION OF FREE WORKERS (FFW), TOLD LABATT ON MARCH 7 THAT MAHENDRA SEN, PRESIDENT OF THE COMMUNIST-DOMINATED WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONISTS (WFTU), VISITED WITH HIM AND "ALL OTHER UNIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES" FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECRUITING FRATERNAL DELEGATES FOR THE FORTHCOMING WFTU CONVENTION IN PRAGUE APRIL 1978. ACCORDING TO TAN, SEN RECEIVED FAVORABLE RESPONSE FROM EVERYBODY AND THAT HE EXPECTS A SIZABLE FILIPINO DELEGATION TO ARRIVE IN PRAGUE. WHEN ASKED IF HE WAS SENDING ANY DELEGATES FROM BATU OR FFW, TAN RESPONDED THAT HE HIMSELF MIGHT GO OR HE MIGHT SEND HIS ASSISTANT. WHEN PRESSED FURTHER AS TO WHETHER HE WOULD GO AS A DELEGATE FROM BATU AND/OR FFW HE SAID "PROBABLY BATU, ABOUT FFW WE HAVE NOT DECIDED WHAT TO DO YET."

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2. COMMENT: THE FFW HAS CAST ITSELF IN THE ROLE OF A MILITANT, LIBERAL, ANTI-COMMUNIST ORGANIZATION, AND THE FACT THAT TAN WOULD CONSIDER SENDING TO WFTU SOMEONE FROM FFW IS A SIGNIFICANT DEPARTURE FROM PAST PRACTICES AND ATTITUDES. THIS IS VERY PROBABLY AN OUTGROWTH OF THE DIALOGUE THAT HAS BEEN GOING ON IN EUROPE WITHIN THE WORLD CONFEDERATION OF LABOR ABOUT ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH EASTERN EUROPEAN UNIONS.

TAN IS VERY CONVERSANT WITH THE EUROPEAN DIALOGUE AND
MAINTAINS THAT WHAT EUROPE DOES IS ONE THING BUT THAT "WE
ASIANS ARE ENTITLED TO OUR OWN VIEWS." IT REMAINS TO BE
SEEN WHETHER OR NOT TAN'S FILIPINO ORGANIZATION WISHES TO
JOIN THE EUROPEAN UNIONS WHO FRATERNIZE WITH EASTERN EUROPE.
NEWSOM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR RELATIONS, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MANILA03714
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From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780393/aaaadawp.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: WFTU RECRUITING DELEGATES FOR PRAGUE CONVENTION
TAGS: ELAB, RP
To: STATE
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
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